



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

On duty death

On Friday May 26, 2006 at 6:38 pm, Civilian Reserve Dan C. Bell died while on duty on I-17 near mile post 284.2. Dan Bell was assisting a motorist change a tire at the time he died.

Mr. Bell was a Civilian Reserve with DPS and has been since July 8, 2000. A Civilian Reserve is an unpaid employee who donates their time to the Department of Public Safety and the Citizens of Arizona. Civilian Reserves perform many duties within the Department to include assisting stranded motorists. At the time of his death, Mr. Bell was assisting two women change a tire on I-17 near mile post 284.2 which is one mile south of Camp Verde. Mr. Bell had placed the new tire on the motorist's vehicle and began to feel overheated. Mr. Bell informed the motorist he was going to take a break and cool off in his Department vehicle. After several minutes, Mr. Bell exited the vehicle and began to walk back to the stranded motorist and collapsed. Medical personnel were immediately dispatched to the scene.

Two citizens observed Mr. Bell collapse and stopped to assist. These two citizens, who are married, were Doctor Jason Kurtz and Registered Nurse Dawn Kurtz from Flagstaff Arizona. Both administered CPR for several minutes, until the Camp Verde Fire Department arrived. The incredible efforts of the Kurtz's Family and the Camp Verde Fire Department were not enough to save Mr. Bell. Mr. Bell passed away on the side of the roadway after performing a job he truly loved to do, assisting the citizens of Arizona.

The 100 Club Board of Director's has approved a \$10,000 line-of-duty death benefit to the Bell family and will be visiting them today.

Mr. Bell's contribution to the Arizona Department of Public Safety and the Citizens of Arizona is immeasurable. For nearly six years, Mr. Bell has assisted Officers at collisions, crime scenes, and with stranded motorists. His contributions allowed sworn officers more time to concentrate their efforts on DUI enforcement, criminal interdiction, and traffic law enforcement.

Mr. Dan C. Bell was born on July 17, 1940 in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from Littleton, Colorado High School in 1958 and furthered his education at Colorado State University. Dan married Elaine P. Rhody in Fort Collins, Colorado on February 1, 1960. He is survived by his wife and three children Tana Bryant, Daniel Bell, and Andrea Weber, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Dan had a vast array of life experiences and travels with an expansive employment career. He was employed as a manager with Pacific Vegetable Oil Company overseeing the sales of edible

oils. His work included extensive travels around the world leading him to experience many diverse settings while enjoying rich cultural experiences. Eventually, after many years with Pacific Vegetable Oil Company Dan's career lead him to Brookings, Oregon where he opened Feed Etc, the largest country store in the area, with his wife Elaine. Dan was an officer in the Brookings, Oregon Elks Lodge from 1976 through 1978. His travels took him through Medford, Oregon and Colorado before settling down in Mesa, Arizona in 1993. While living in Mesa he was a civilian assistant for the Mesa Police Department in the DUI Enforcement Program. In 1998, Dan purchased a home in Camp Verde revisiting his love of law by attending courses of study at Pepperdine Law School and becoming certified as a mediator. Dan assisted his wife with Bell and Associates which managed fourteen different home owners associations. Dan had been a Judge Pro Tem in Camp Verde as well as being an Arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau. Dan was also the Code Enforcement Hearing Officer for the City of Camp Verde and the Assistant State Coordinator for the AARP Driver Safety Program. Dan had a passion for the law and most recently had submitted an application and interviewed for the Magistrate position in Clarkdale, Arizona. Dan began his involvement with the Arizona Department of Public Safety Reserves Program on July 8, 2000.

Mr. Dan C. Bell is remembered by family and friends as a caring and genuine man with deep compassion for his fellow man. Dan was a loving family man with unparalleled respect and love for his wife, children and family. Dan dedicated himself with great enthusiasm to serving the public by being involved as a volunteer with the Arizona Department of Public Safety Reserves Program ensuring the safety and well being of countless citizens traveling throughout the state of Arizona. Dan's unwavering commitment to service and his numerous positions in the community demonstrate the moral fabric of a man with a steadfast approach to upholding justice and the fortitude to remain true to his philanthropic principles.

A service will be held Wednesday May 31, 2006 at 10:00 am at Mr. Bell's home in Camp Verde.